

REMARKS

Claims 27-46 are pending. Claims 1-26 have been cancelled. Claims 27-46 are newly added. Claims 27, 34 and 40 are independent claims. An Examiner's Interview was conducted via telephone on July 19, 2007.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanan, USPN: 6,898,730 (hereinafter: Hanan). (Final Office Action, Page 2). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

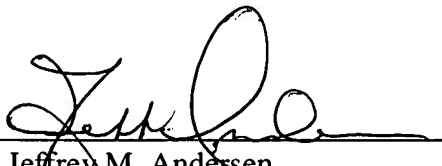
Anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration. *W.L. Gore & Assocs. v. Garlock*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 469 U.S. 851 (1984). Further, “anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim.” *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co.*, 730 F.2d 1452, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (citing *Connell v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 722 F.2d 1542, 220 USPQ 193 (Fed. Cir. 1983)) (emphasis added).

Independent claims 1-26 have been cancelled. Claims 27-46 have been newly added. Applicants contend that newly added Independent Claims 27, 34 and 40 recite elements that have not been disclosed, taught or suggested by Hanan. Therefore, under *Lindemann*, a prima facie case of anticipation has not been established for claims 27, 34 and 40 of the present application. Thus, independent claims 27, 34 and 40 should be allowed. Further, dependent claims 28-33 (which depend on independent claim 27), dependent claims 35-39 (which depend on independent claim 34) and dependent claims 41-46 (which depend on independent claim 40) should also be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the forgoing amendments and arguments, reconsideration of the claims is hereby requested, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of
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